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**PATENT**

Attorney Docket No. FJN-070

(3999/73)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**RECEIVED**

APPLICANT: Yamaguchi, et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/202,455

GROUP NO.: 1646

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FILING DATE (U.S.) December 15, 1998

EXAMINER: Fozia Hamud

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

TITLE: NOVEL PROTEIN AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE PROTEIN

BOX AF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**Response under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
Expedited Procedure  
Examining Group No. 3761**

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION, MADE FINAL**

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action, made final, mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on June 19, 2001. Petition for a one-month extension of time up to and including Friday, October 19, 2001 is hereby requested. The appropriate fee of \$110.00 is enclosed herewith. Please charge any other necessary fees to Deposit Account Number 20-0531.

Applicants submit the following amendment and remarks.

**AMENDMENT**

**In the Claims**

Please cancel claims 65-67, 72-79, 81, and 89 (as renumbered). Please amend claims 69, 80, 82, 84, 85 and 88 (as renumbered) as follows.

69. (Twice Amended) A purified and isolated Osteoclastogenesis Inhibitory Factor (OCIF) binding protein comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 16, and SEQ ID NO: 17, wherein said OCIF-binding protein promotes osteoclast differentiation and maturation.